

veteran medical care, I must rise in opposition to H.R. 2099, the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act.

Mr. Speaker, in its current form, this bill eliminates two programs which promoted comprehensive and effective economic growth in disadvantaged communities—the community development financial institutions and the economic development initiative fund.

Through these programs, low-income individuals were given the opportunity to start their own businesses, small children benefited from community centers that kept them off the streets after school, families gained access to safe and affordable housing and good business was generated for America's financial services industry.

Mr. Speaker, by eliminating these programs, we are launching a double assault on poor communities. In essence, we no longer reward those individuals who take responsibility for improving themselves and creating a better life for their children; while, we simultaneously remove incentives for financial institutions to invest in these communities as well.

Mr. Speaker, we need to commend programs such as the CDFI and EDI fund because they do offer low-income individuals a hand-up, not a hand-out, which I am sure my colleagues on both sides of the aisle can appreciate.

I would urge my colleagues to consider the long-term effect that this disinvestment in America's urban communities will have on this Nation's economy. With that said, I hope my colleague will join me in voting against H.R. 2099.

PRESIDENT SHOULD SIGN BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I am no great defender of the Washington press corps, but let me share this quote from this week's Newsweek magazine:

Unfortunately, the White House isn't yet truly bargaining. President Clinton has endorsed a balanced budget but has flagrantly misrepresented the GOP budget. He says it would "destroy" Medicare. This is an absurd description of a program whose spending would grow 62 percent by 2002. He says that "deep" education cuts would "undermine" schools. But the budget barely touches the largest education program—guaranteed college loans—and all Federal aid to public schools provides only 7 percent of their spending.

Newsweek is absolutely right. The President has only paid lipservice to balancing the budget. While he tries to portray the Republican budget as draconian and mean-spirited, he offers no plan of his own.

Instead of lipservice, the President should sign the balanced budget that is now sitting on his desk.

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BOEING MOVES TO MEXICO

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year American workers in the Boeing Seattle plant won awards and trophies for worker productivity. Thirty days after the speeches and the trophies, Boeing is moving to Mexico; 2,000 more livable wage jobs down the chute.

The facts: Boeing paid \$18 per hour labor wage in Seattle. Boeing will now pay 76 cents an hour labor wage in Mexico. And if you really want to spill your Wheaties, ladies and gentlemen, Mexico has yet to purchase one Boeing jet. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

The trade deficit is at a record. Japan and China are literally raping our shores. If you want to get a job in this country, move to Mexico. The biggest export for NAFTA has been American jobs. Shame, Congress. Shame for turning your back on the American workers. What will be left? A couple more McDonald's jobs. Think about it.

ANTITERRORISM LEGISLATION

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to appear today as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary and a Member of this body very concerned about antiterrorism legislation that gives Government the tools it needs yet respects the rights of all of our citizens here to report to this House that we have worked out through the yeoman efforts of the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HYDE] of the Committee on the Judiciary a piece of legislation that we intended to bring to the floor of this House very shortly and that goes a long way toward giving the Government the tools that it needs within the bounds of civil liberties, yet does not represent a vast expansion of Federal electronic surveillance power and intrusive technique and does not erode the very strict separation between military and domestic law enforcement by weakening posse comitatus.

I would like to report to the House that we will have before us a piece of legislation that will indeed strengthen our Government's hand to protect us against acts of terrorism yet is very mindful of the civil liberties that all of us, both individually and collectively, enjoy and should enjoy in this country.

NATO

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration is a constant source of amazement. It is ringing alarm bells about how American boys

need to save NATO by getting knee deep in Bosnia. Yet, while it's preaching about saving NATO, it is championing the cause of an avowed Marxist to be NATO Secretary General.

Last week, the Clinton administration approved the selection of Javier Solana, Spain's Foreign Minister to lead NATO at this supposedly critical time. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you about Mr. Solana. He has spent his life attacking NATO and the United States. He led the Socialist Worker's Party campaign to impose communism on Spain. He is an ally and admirer of Fidel Castro. He is virulently anti-American and represents a country which is not even part of NATO's military command.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton's argument that NATO will crumble in Bosnia without American troops is silly on its face, but to promote the likes of Javier Solana when American lives are on the line is nothing short of outrageous. If this is what Bill Clinton thinks of NATO, then the NATO's 'charter isn't worth the paper it's written on and it certainly isn't worth the life of one single American soldier.

BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1995

(Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, it's been more than 2 weeks since President Clinton promised to balance the budget in 7 years. He still doesn't have a plan, but don't worry America, there is a solution.

It's called the Balanced Budget Act of 1995. It's a 7-year plan to balance the budget and ensure a bright future for our children and it's waiting for the President's signature.

I know, I know, Mr. and Mrs. America, you've heard all about the draconian cuts in this bill. But the Balanced Budget Act increases spending by more than \$2.5 trillion during the next 7 years. Medicare spending increases 62 percent, Medicaid spending increases 43 percent, student loan spending increases 49 percent.

Mr. Speaker, the President has it easy. We've already done the work. All he has to do is sign on the dotted line and he has helped save the next generation. Mr. Speaker, I hope he does the right thing—I hope the President signs the Balanced Budget Act of 1995.

BALANCE THE BUDGET NOW

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, Americans want Congress and the President to balance the budget and they want a plan now, not next year.